

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL
CABINET MEMBER DELEGATED DECISION
by
COUNTY COUNCILLOR PETE ROBERTS
CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION
Date 05 February 2024

REPORT AUTHOR: Lynda Baker Programme Officer
Transforming Education

REPORT TITLE: Name of New Primary School in Brecon

REPORT FOR: Decision

1. Purpose

- 1.1 Powys County Council (“the authority”) has proposed to close Mount Street Infant School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School in the Brecon area from August 2024 and establish a new Community Primary School with effect from September 2024.
- 1.2 The school will be established on the existing sites of the three schools, before moving to a new building in Brecon in a few years’ time.
- 1.3 The purpose of this paper is to agree a name for the new school.

2. Background

- 2.1 The following steps have been undertaken to identify a name for the new school:
 - The Headteacher Designate visited the three schools and explained that a new name needed to be agreed for the new school taking effect from September 2024.
 - Pupils were asked to suggest possible names, and the three schools submitted five suggested names each.
 - The School Name Sub-Group met and agreed a shortlist of six names which were then shared with the Temporary Governing Body who agreed to carry out engagement with the school communities on the possible names.
 - Engagement took place through an online questionnaire which launched on 15 November 2023 and closed on 01 December 2023.
 - 172 responses were received.

2.2 At a meeting of the Temporary Governing Body on the 15 January 2024, it was agreed to propose Ysgol Golwg Pen y Fan as the name of the new school.

2.3 As Pen y Fan is located within Bannau Brycheiniog, agreement to the new name has been sought from Awdurdod Parc Cenedlaethol Bannau Brycheiniog (Brecon Beacons National Park Authority) and the National Trust. Both organisations have agreed that 'Pen y Fan' can be used as part of the new school name.

3. Advice

3.1 The Proposal is that the school is named Ysgol Golwg Pen y Fan.

3.2 The new school name is approved as soon as possible so that it can be registered with Welsh Government, and so that the new operating model can continue.

4. Resource Implications

4.1 There are no resources considerations in approving the recommendation.

4.2 The Head of Finance (Section 151 Officer) notes the report.

5. Legal Implications

5.1 Legal: The recommendations can be supported from a legal point of view. To comply with Regulations 32 to 34 of Government of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005 and Regulation 43 of the New Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005, the approved name for the new school must be incorporated into an Instrument of Government for the new school.

5.2 The Head of Legal and Monitoring Officer has commented as follows: 'I note the legal comment and support the recommendations.'

6. Climate Change & Nature Implications

6.1 No impact.

7. Data Protection

7.1 All necessary notifications and fees to the Information Commissioner will need to be issued as appropriate.

7.2 The Data Protection Officer / Senior Manager Information Governance has commented as follows:

'I confirm that the wording put in for Section, 7 is noted and approved'.

8. Comment from Local Members

8.1 The comments from Local Members are:

Brecon East: Cllr. Liz Rijnenberg:

'I support the proposed name for the new Brecon School. A robust process has been followed to consult with stakeholders across the three schools. The name reflects the locality, Welsh heritage, is easily translated and flows well'.

Brecon East: Cllr. Chris Walsh:

'I echo the comments made by Cllr Liz Rijnenberg'.

Yscir with Honddu Isaf and Llanddew: Cllr. Mr Iain McIntosh:

'Despite my steadfast opposition to the Liberal Democrats' decision to amalgamate the three schools into a single site at Penlan in Brecon, I remain committed to contesting this plan vigorously. However, should the merger ultimately proceed, I acknowledge that the proposed name, Ysgol Golwg Pen y Fan, aptly captures the essence of our local heritage and surroundings. This concession does not diminish my resolve to continue advocating against the merger, aiming to keep a primary school at the current site in Cradoc'.

9. Impact Assessment

9.1 An Impact Assessment was carried out on the original proposal to close the three schools and open a new school.

10. Recommendation

10.1 To agree that the official name of the new school to replace Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School will be Ysgol Golwg Pen y Fan.

10.2 To require the Temporary Governing Body of the new school to prepare as soon as possible a draft Instrument of Government for the new school with the assistance of Officers and submit it to the Local Authority for approval.

10.3 The draft Instrument of Government will include the name for the new school as set out in 10.1 above.

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